

# GIRLS WHO TOIL



TELEPHONE GIRL

This is an age of economy and dispatch. Economy of time, energy and force; dispatch in the execution of business and social obligation. These things which promote this economy and dispatch are sought diligently by all men. Perhaps the most important of these things is the telephone. Fifty years ago our forefathers may have dreamed of a machine that could speak to their business partner in a distant city—to-day we realize such a dream in all its fullness. Over the telephone, local and long distance, is transacted every conceivable kind of business, and as a social medium it daily increases in popularity.

As we daily use our telephone how little thought is given to the girl who so courteously serves us at the central office. It is about this individual, who plays an invisible, but nevertheless important, part in the business and social life of every town or city, that I would say a few words.

The telephone girl is a species of the genus woman, about which there is a diversity of opinion, agreeing in just one particular, viz., that she has an extremely easy time. By some she is believed to have one end and aim in life—to provoke her unoffending subscribers; by others she is thought to be the personification of laziness, but over and above all she is looked upon as a genius in the art of fibbing. "Never believe Central" is the creed of the patrons of the telephone. Another popular opinion is that "Central" can furnish information concerning anything. For instance: "feminine voice" they ask, "Central" what is the nearest restaurant to me? Now Central has no idea in what part of the city the owner of the voice is, and besides she is not allowed to speak to anyone. Other characteristic questions are: "Where is the fire?" "What time is it?" "Keep the store open at the corner of such and such a street?" Has Mrs. Smith a phone? Do you think that Mr. Jones has closed his store? Who lives at No. 400 A Street?" etc., etc.

"One thing at the time and that done well," that old proverb learned in childhood days must be utterly and entirely forgotten by the girl who aspires to be a telephone operator; for she is compelled to talk, listen and manipulate the switch at one and the same time. Swiftness and accuracy are positively necessary, hurry to be avoided. Calmness and undivided attention are prime factors. A clear low tone of voice to be cultivated. No unnecessary word should be spoken, "number" and "busy" should comprise the vocabulary of the thoroughly business "central." Quickly, but without excitement, commands simultaneously given her. Connecting, disconnecting, ringing on, on and on, pausing not for any cause. The work of central is extremely wearing to the nerves on account of the close application necessary. The fact, that all

beginners are for several weeks constantly disturbed at night by dreams of their work, illustrates how entire must be the attention given. After a while the work becomes to a certain degree, mechanical and the strain upon the operator becomes less strenuous. Gradually the girl becomes saturated with the work. It requires none of the cunning of Sherlock Holmes to ascertain the cause of the emotion of surprise. Unintentionally they have become literally the "telephone girl." The girl who is asked to pass the line to say "number" if she does not understand something that is said to her. One girl at the table, responded absently "busy." Another on hearing a minister announce the hymn 336, repeated aloud in the most professional of tones 3-4-6, much to the amusement of the surrounding congregation and her own story is told of the Catholic "central." She went to confession, not immediately leading to her, she called out, "Hello, hello there." The father's answer is not recorded.

Impossible to fully appreciate the trials of central without knowing just a bit about the subscribers with whom she must daily and hourly contend. First, there is the man that really believes that central is his enemy, and that her greatest desire is to prevent him from talking to any one. He raises it at any time, a line is out of order; calls up the chief operator if he gets the wrong number; tells the operator "busy" sets him free; second, the man who fancies that he knows how to manage central—he tries to talk to the manager, and reports that his operator is both careless and discourteous; third, the master, in a white-hot voice, he informs central that she has the sweetest voice, or begs that she will tell him her name, or when she will be off duty. If central is wise she will vanquish him with a brusque "number" and no attention to his overtures. He decides that central is a mere machine and leaves her in peace; fourth, and in special contrast to the last named, is the business man; he informs central that he is more than all of the others, is decidedly less trouble. He knows what he wants and how to get it. To the regulation "number?" he responds clearly: 8-4-2 (or whatever number he desires). If he receives the answer "busy" he does not wait to murder central; he quietly waits a minute or two and calls again; fifth, the man who realizes that there is a human being behind that mere machine at the exchange. He always says good morning to central, thanks her courteously for any extra trouble she may take for him. Many a time some pleasant remark of his, even though central cannot answer it, helps her through a trying day; sixth, and last, but by no means least, is lovely woman. A woman over a telephone is like the little girl who curls right in the middle of her forehead.

When they are good they are very, very good. But when they are bad they are horrid. A few women know how to write for "phone" but the majority know how to mislead one. They have a deep rooted objection to using the catalogue, and they always pick the voice very high instead of speaking in a conversational tone.

We often hear the question asked, "Can central hear me when I am talking to two subscribers?" It is possible, but by no means probable. It is, of course, strictly against the rules to open the switch on any conversation, but who ever heard of a rule being absolutely obeyed? As a general thing, however, central has no time to listen on any conversation, but in the course of months and years a telephone girl picks up a goodly amount of information, both public and private, that would create some excitement in the newspapers were it to get hold of it.

The hours of heaviest work in a telephone exchange are from 8 o'clock A. M. until 1 P. M. Then comes a lull until

about 4 P. M., then another busy period until 6 P. M. From 6 P. M. until 8 P. M. is a pretty busy time, but it is mostly social. From 8 P. M. until midnight there is a fair number of calls, varying according to the season of the year, and the amount of excitement in the city. From midnight until 4 A. M. there is very little to do. At about 4 A. M., or somewhat after the market men and butchers begin calling. Then gradually residences, factories, stores, offices, etc., are opened until the business of the day is again in full swing. Central usually works about ten hours per day with about one and one-half hours rest. There is a general opinion that a telephone operator is well paid, such is not always true. The average salary is about twenty dollars per month. In conclusion, it may be said that there is a work more trying than that of a telephone operator. Consider how difficult it is for you to keep your temper in using your one line and imagine what central must undergo in trying to satisfy one hundred subscribers. Central is faithfully trying to answer promptly every call, but the time she spends on the telephone seconds seem minutes and minutes hours. Give central a chance and don't abuse her, and she will invariably do her best for you.

## RICHMOND'S NEW COUNCILMEN

Owing to the recent resignation of members of the Common Council, there are two new members of that body, and they are both enterprising young business men, who promise to measure up well as city legislators.

The first vacancy filled was that in Lee Ward, occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Charles R. Winston, whose private engagements were such as to interfere with his councilmanic duties, and he was succeeded by Mr. Claude L. Batkins. Mr. Batkins is a young man of about thirty years of age, and is well known in business circles, being quite a handy contracting plasterer on his own account.

Mr. Batkins was recently elected to the City Democratic Committee from Lee Ward, and will resign that position in a short while. He is the son of Mr. B. M. Batkins, the well known contractor, and a brother of Dr. L. B. Batkins, of the West End. Mr. Batkins is popular to a degree in his section of the city, and has behind him a record of faithful party service in the ranks. He is an officer in the Lee Democratic and Social Club, and takes a lively interest in local political affairs. Mr. Batkins gives every promise of making a faithful and intelligent Councilman, and will doubtless stand for re-election next year.

The other new Councilman is Mr. Charles W. Spicer, who was recently chosen to succeed General A. L. Phillips, of Clay Ward. Mr. Spicer is a prominent young laborer, and is a native of the city of Petersburg, though he has lived here for some years. He is about the age of Mr. Batkins, and is popular among a wide circle, both in a business and social way.

Mr. Spicer's popularity was evidenced the other night by the fact that he was chosen to succeed General Phillips in the face of the unanimous recommendation of the ward delegation in favor of another gentleman.

Both these young men stand well in the Council and in the business world, and will doubtless serve their people faithfully.

## REV. MR. SNEAD TO RESIGN TO-NIGHT

His Career in This Field Has Been Crowned With Success.

Rev. Edwin B. Snead, for the past three years the popular pastor of Weddell Memorial Chapel and assistant rector of St. John's Church, will sever his connection with these churches to-night. He leaves this week to take charge of three rapidly growing churches in the Diocese of West Virginia, the parish being the Church of the Transfiguration at Buchanan, St. John's Church at Sutton and Spruce Chapel, near Buchanan.

On Friday he will be ordained priest at the Theological Seminary. The first service will be held at Buchanan on next Sunday.

The ministerial career of Rev. Mr. Snead has been exceedingly bright and as years go by it becomes brighter. Although a middle-aged man, his ministerial career only covers a period of about five years. In August, 1888, he felt it his duty to enter the ministry and became a lay reader.



REV. EDWIN B. SNEAD.

and was at once appointed city missionary; as such, having charge of St. Luke's Church, Weddell Memorial Chapel, together with services at the penitentiary, city almshouse, city jail and in charge of the city poor generally.

In this field he labored hard and was crowned with success. In December, 1935, he was ordained deacon by Rt. Rev. P. M. Whittle, bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, in St. James Church. He continued to do missionary work until February 1, 1936, when he was called to be assistant minister of St. John's Church and given charge of Weddell Memorial Chapel.

The chapel was then very small and its members were a mere handful, but under his labors a nice church has been built and the membership has doubled itself several times, and it is now one of the most promising in the diocese. Recently improvements to the extent of nineteen hundred dollars have been made and it is one of the most convenient and comfortable chapels in the diocese. The members of the chapel are more than attached to their popular leader and it is with regret they relinquish their claim on him.

## WASHINGTON.

The store that saves you money

# A Partial List of the Many

Appropriate articles which our stock offers to furnish your home completely or supply some needed articles to render it more comfortable and complete. You will find just what you require here and for less money. Besides, we will open an account for you and charge your purchases, and you may pay in the very smallest amounts, either weekly or monthly.

## Seasonable Needs

Liberal Reduction in Order to Clear Out Our Very Large Stock of These Goods.

### Note Prices.

98c for the Largest and Best Rocker ever offered for less than \$2.

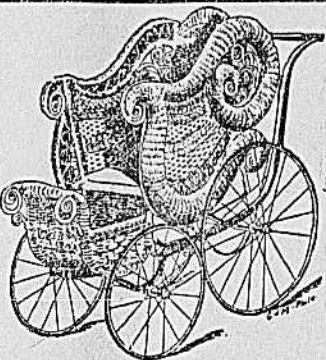
\$2.95 for 2-burner, High-Grade Gasoline Stove.

\$6.75 for 3-burner Blue-Flame Oil Stove.

\$2.95 for Bent-Wood Lawn Set.

\$10.75 for a large 3-burner Gas Range.

\$2.95 for Folding Go-Cart, with rubber-tired wheels.



Our assortment of Fine Rattan Go-Carts is as large now as it was early in the season. Your opportunity to save 20 per cent. on any Go-Cart in our house.

\$10.00 Go-Carts now..... \$8.00  
\$15.00 Go-Carts now..... \$12.00  
\$20.00 Go-Carts now..... \$16.00  
\$25.00 Go-Carts now..... \$20.00

### China Closets.

\$24.50 for Pretty, Round-End China Closets, worth \$30.

\$27.50 for Very Handsome Oval Front China Closets, worth \$35.

\$21.75 for this Large Swelled-Board, with large beveled-edge mirror, prettily carved and finished.

\$15.50 Swelled-Front Oak Sideboard; actual value, \$22.

\$9.75 for Golden Oak Sideboard, 3 drawers, large cupboard, beveled plate mirror.



\$7.95 for Pretty Colored Enamel-Ed Continuous Post Bed.

\$2.95 for Pretty Brass-Trimmed Bed, white enamel.

\$1.45 for White Enamel Bed.

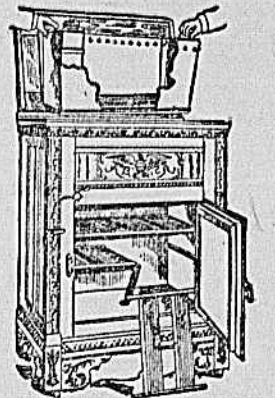
## Matting and Rugs.

Our very large and fine stock of China and Jap. Matting and Rugs at greatly reduced prices. The backward season leaves us with more Matting than we should have at this time. This is your opportunity. 9c for a number of styles of Fancy Matting.

18c for twenty patterns of China Matting, in fine weaves and narrow checks.

22 1/2c for Carpet Patterns in Jap. Damask Matting.

25c for fifty styles of Very Fine China Matting.



Our Refrigerator stock must be reduced, as we never carry goods over from season to season. We have, therefore, made a cut of 20 per cent. on our regular marked price of every Refrigerator in our house. A chance to buy a high-grade Refrigerator for less than you pay for a cheap one. We have them in all sizes.

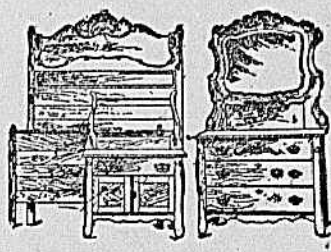
\$5.50 for Hard-Wood Refrigerator—up to \$50.

\$3.50 up for Hard-Wood Ice Chests.



\$6.95 for Tufted Velour-Covered Oak Frame Couch.

\$9.75 for Handsome Carved Frame, covered in velour.



\$34.50 for this Handsome Carved Golden Oak Suite, beautiful swelled front dressing case, with large washstand, worth \$45.

\$24.50 for Pretty Oak Suite, swelled front dressing case, with large mirror, cost elsewhere \$30.

\$17.95 for Solid Oak Bedroom Suite, large dresser, with beveled-edge mirror.

# CASH OR CREDIT.

# PETTIT & CO.,

Formerly Mayer & Pettit.

Corner Foushee and Broad Streets.

# MILDRED CHAMPAGNE WRITES ON TRUE LOVE

How many men and women are there who can give a true definition of the word "love," or have ever experienced the sentiment in its entirety?

Poets have written and artists have dreamed of it since the very beginning of time, and yet its very scarcity makes it a difficult subject to define.

There are so many phases of feeling that are mistaken for love. When two people of the opposite sex meet and are mutually attracted, they imagine they are in love. The phrase, "Love at first sight," is such a common one and is so often misused.

There can be no true, enduring love at first sight. People who have met but once are in no serious danger of dying or even losing their health, if the chance of another meeting proved a frail or impossible one, though the charm and fascination were ever so intense at this first meeting.

Admiration, affection, passion—these alone are not love. The attraction that is inspired by a pretty face only, the admiration for some accomplishment, does not last, and is soon supplanted by a new fancy.

The man who marries the pretty face for admiration only soon tires of it, and the woman who marries the man for admiration only soon tires of him. The man who marries the woman for admiration only soon tires of her, and the woman who marries the man for admiration only soon tires of him.

Many marriages are founded on affection, steady-going sort, that makes any outward display of regard appear like a crime, and causes us to doubt whether there is any real sentiment left in this century.

Passion is inspired by passion mistaken for love, the most unhappy ones and result in a volcanic sort of existence! Gradually contempt and often hatred are introduced, and as the years roll on, and passion has died a natural death, the husband and wife grow further apart, until a final separation takes place or there are reasons for the divorce court to be resorted to.

But the greatest error is made by persons who marry with naught but passion for a foundation, and this is surely a short-lived paradise.

Passion is often mistaken for love, but is no more akin than the cheap trashy novels of to-day are like the classic masterpieces of old. The former are sought after, excite the senses and give pleasure for the time being, but interest in them soon dies out. The latter are a final separation takes place or there are reasons for the divorce court to be resorted to.

Passion is like a parlor match. When struck it blazes up quickly and furiously, but soon the flame dies out and nothing but ashes are left.

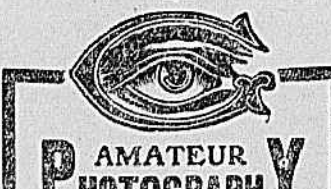
Marriage inspired by passion mistaken for love, the most unhappy ones and result in a volcanic sort of existence! Gradually contempt and often hatred are introduced, and as the years roll on, and passion has died a natural death, the husband and wife grow further apart, until a final separation takes place or there are reasons for the divorce court to be resorted to.

The old man usually marries on this principle, and the greater the disparity of years between himself and his wife, the greater it is to his liking. Youth has a potent charm for him, and he is willing to go to all extremes in order to obtain it. Sometimes force, but more often strategy is the resort, and the young girl, blinded by his kindness and fatherly interest, readily falls into the snare instituted by his base desires.

The girl who listens to the passionate pleadings of her lover, and believes in the wild declarations of love that demand the sacrifice of honor, awakens too late to the sad realization that this is not love. Love is a combination of all the noble sentiments that human nature is heir to, and is wholly free from vice of

any description. It is pure and self-sacrificing, and in its sweet serenity endures forever. True love cannot die. When once born it lasts into eternity.

A true love match is a scarcity in these days, and does one's heart and soul good to witness. Its influence is felt far and near, and wherever found illumines the earth like a bright ray of sunshine.



Facilities for French cleaning fine fabrics unsurpassed, embracing every article, from the plume on the head to the slippers on the feet.

MRS. A. J. PYLE, Proprietor Richmond Steam Dyeing, Scouring and Carpet Cleaning Works, No. 315 North Fifth Street. Write for Booklet. Phone 2933.

L. J. Hayden, Manufacturer of PURE HERB MEDICINE.

Is one of the Greatest Healers of the Sick on Earth. Cures all Diseases or no Charge. I cure all diseases, no matter what your disease, sickness, or affliction may be, and restore you to perfect health. I cure the following diseases: Heart Disease, Consumption, Blood, Kidney, Liver, Bladder, Piles in any form, Vertigo, Quinsy, Sore Throat, Loups, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Constipation, Rheumatism in any form, Pains, and Aches of any kind, Colds, Bronchitis, Tracheitis, Sore, Skin Diseases, all Itchlike Sensations, La Grippe, or Pneumonia; Ulcers, Carbuncles, Boils, Cancer, the worst forms, without the use of knife or instruments; Eczema, Pimples on face and body; Diabetes of Kidney, or Bright's Disease of the Kidney. I cure all diseases, no matter of what nature. Medicine sent to any address by express. For full particulars send a 2-cent stamp for answer. No. 607 Pennsylvania Avenue, Southeast, Washington, D. C. Branch store, No. 491 West Broad Street, Richmond, Va.

CULLINGWORTH & CO., Anthracite Coal, \$6.00; Penobscot Lump, \$6.00; Split Lump, \$5.50. Prices subject to change without notice. YARDS: Eighteenth and Erie. Phone 250. Harrison and Broad. Phone 2914.

TANNER PAINT AND OIL CO., 1419 East Main Street, RICHMOND, VA. COLD WATER, PAINTS, STAINS, BRUSHES, AND PAINTERS' SUPPLIES.

Main and 14th Sts. FISHER'S. Main and 14th Sts.

## EVERYBODY SPEAKS WELL OF OUR CLOTHING

TAKE FOR INSTANCE, talking about clothes. If you should stand by and hear the conversation, you would find that the preference is always given this store—and there's a reason for it, too.

Ask Yourself What Kind of a Suit You Want—YOU'LL FIND IT HERE.

Flannels, Homespuns, Crashes and Serges

Double and Single-Breasted. Worsteds and Cassimeres in Single-Breasted, New Up-to-Date Merchandise at One-Fourth off their original value. Here are the Prices

\$5.00, \$7.50, \$10.00.

Special Sale Rain Coats 56 INCHES LONG. Tan and Oxford Gray. \$10.00

STRAW HATS, 1-4 Off Any Hat in the House

SHOE SALE, All \$3.00 Shoes Now \$1.95

Star Clothing House

Y-M-W-B-O-D-S-E-F-G-H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z